

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**May 11 – 12, 2006**

**Montana School for the Deaf & Blind**  
**3911 Central Avenue**  
**Great Falls, MT 59405**

At 8:15 a.m. the Board of Public Education had the wonderful opportunity to observe the Pre-school at the Montana School for the Deaf & Blind which is taught by Gail Bechard and her Student Teacher, Kelly Johnson. The Board extends its thanks to these wonderful teachers!

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Kirk Miller called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, May 11, 2006. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Dr. Kirk Miller introduced Angela McLean as the newest Board of Public Education member. Students from the Montana School for the Deaf & Blind presented the American Flag and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance complete with sign language. Dr. Kirk Miller welcomed Jenny Tiskus, Student Representative to the Board.

**MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved to adopt the agenda as written. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following board members: Chairperson Kirk Miller, Vice Chairperson Diane Fladmo, Storrs Bishop, John Fuller, Cal Gilbert, Patty Myers, Angela McLean, Jack Jessop and Jenny Tiskus. Staff present at the meeting included Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary of the Board of Public Education, Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council, Steve Gettel, Superintendent of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, and Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio Board members present included Superintendent Linda McCulloch, Jan Lombardi, Governor's Education Policy Advisor. Visitors in attendance at the meeting included Kris Wilkinson, LFA; Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Stephanie Wooderchak, Fergus County Administrator; Nancy Coopersmith, OPI; Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; Barbara Vail, Rocky Mountain College; Bill Davis, MSDB; Bill Sykes, MSDB; Tom Kallay, Summit Preparatory School; Scott Chauvet, Superintendent of Stanford K-12 Schools; Nancy Hall, Governor's Financial Analyst; Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Madalyn Quinlan, OPI; Dr. Harold Jones, University of Great Falls; and Al McMillin, OPI.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Dr. Kirk Miller**

- Legislative audit with a report complete in July
- Attended the Superintendent's Spring Conference with a great portion dedicated to the Bullying issue
- Attended the Grand Opening of MSUN Applied Technology Center and the Governor's Listening Session
- OPI Yellow School Bus Tour to Havre
- Corresponded with Great Falls High School Principal, Fred Anderson, regarding his request to have the Board look at consistent criteria for teacher endorsement requirements.
- Attended the North Central Superintendent's Regional meeting at their request to discuss the QSIC, Bullying, and Initiatives of BPE
- Orientation for new board member, Angela McLean was scheduled with the Executive Committee
- Completed Legislative Audit Graduation Rate Survey
- NASBE Conference upcoming in Alexandria, VA in June

**Moment of Silence:** On April 29, 2006, Harriet Meloy passed away. Harriet served on the Board of Public Education from 1970-1985 and served as Chair for three separate terms. For 12 years she was the Montana Representative on the National Committee for the support of public schools. She was on the Board of Trustees at Rocky Mountain College, Jamestown College, and the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind. Harriet also received honorary doctorates from both Carroll College and Rocky Mountain College. Harriet Meloy was the beloved mother of the Board's Executive Secretary, Steve Meloy.

### **BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES**

#### **Diane Fladmo**

- Rural Advocacy League Forum
- NASBE Calories In – Calories Out Conference

#### **Patty Myers**

- Lunch with Accreditation Committee
- NASBE Study Group on Early Childhood in Washington, DC
- MSDB Spring Dinner
- MSDB Foundation Meeting
- PEPPS
- MSDB Committee
- MSDB Spring Program

#### **Jack Jessop**

- Panelist at Rural Advocacy League Education Forum
- Addressed MASSP Convention in Bozeman

### **Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT –Steve Meloy**

- Passed around Comparative State Level Funding for University Educational Units
- Attended Angela McLean's high school students' presentation before the Montana Supreme Court
- Conversated with Karla M. Gray, Chief Justice, to encourage the Board to discuss Civic Ed at an upcoming meeting in September or November
- Presented a draft position statement of CI-97/TABORS/SOS
- Preparing for the Strategic Planning Meeting in Kalispell, MT on July 12, 2006
- Chaired the April 18, 2006 meeting of the Ed Forum
- Worked with Governor's Ed Policy Advisor on modifications to the BOE work process
- Orientation session in Anaconda, MT with Angela McLean
- Worked with MEA-MFT on Ed Conference for October 2006
- Met with Dave Gibson on new building prospects for the BPE

- **TABORS/CI-97/SOS Discussion:**

- Diane Fladmo asked how the Board sees itself in taking a leadership role in promoting the view of the position statement as presented by the Executive Secretary, Steve Meloy.
- Eric Feaver recommended that the Board adopt a resolution now to study the impact of TABORS and gather up individual selves to have a press conference to tell the world.
- John Fuller has great faith in the ability of the advocacy on the part of MEA to deal with this without the BPE assistance. He is not comfortable with the BPE taking a public stance and/or view regarding this issue.
- Angela McLean felt that we need to adopt a resolution to study the impact of TABORS.
- Diane Fladmo felt that the Board needs to be cautious to maintain its credibility as the "Citizen's Board". We (the Board) owe it to the people of Montana, we owe it to the children to actually do what is right to getting information out in a professional manner. She urges the Board to choose the students of Montana and the state of Montana over those legislators who would take offense at the Boards actions.
- Steve Meloy would like to take a collective Board action to determine impact. Jan Lombardi spoke on behalf of the position of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor that they oppose TABORS.
- Dr. Kirk Miller wants to provide the Board with the opportunity to debate the language. He recommends that the Board should reopen Item #2 on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at the beginning of the meeting. This item is weighty enough that the Board needs to demonstrate a leadership role.

**9:50 Break**

**10:10 Readjourned**

**Linda McCulloch arrived**

**Item 3 CSPAC REPORT-Peter Donovan**

- Board of Public Education requested that CSPAC work with OPI to convene a task force to establish standards for Braille instructors in Montana schools
- 10<sup>th</sup> annual Educator Forum is September 29, 2006 – Passed out brochures
- Copy of Press Release of the Impact of Interstate Teacher-Mobility Policies on Teacher Supply and Demand by NASDEC
- Two appointments: 1) Melodee L. Smith-Burreson – Elementary Educator 2) Judie Woodhouse-Secondary Educator

**MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to appoint Judie Woodhouse to fill the Secondary Position and Melodee Smith-Burreson to fill the Elementary Position on the CSPAC Board. Seconded by Ms. Diane Fladmo. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 4 STATE SUPERINTENDEN'TS REPORT – Linda McCulloch**

- Montana High School Initiative (Will be addressed specifically as Item 9)
- Electronic Grants Management System (E-Grants) Project-Track academic achievement
- Statewide DW/SIS/SERIMS System – Student Information System – Negotiating a contract with a company called *Infinite Campus*
- Yellow School Bus Tour
  - Rocky Boy has implemented a school lunch program that includes physical exercise throughout the day. Students are weighed and measured on a regular basis. The food changed to whole grains and fresh fruit. Portion control is part of the dietary program where they can have seconds on the salad bar, but not the main meal.

- K-12 Science Content Standards and Performance Descriptors – <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/standards/ScienceStandardsMarch06.pdf>  
<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/standards/Commentsuggestions.pdf>
- New Health Enhancement Division Staff – Cheri Seed accepted the position of Tobacco Education Representative
- Lolo Elementary School Receives a National Gold Healthier US School Challenge Award
- Indian Education Professional Development
- New and Improved Indian Education Website
- Ready-to-Go Grants – <http://www.opi.mt.gov/indianed/grantsNew.html>
- Indian Education Funding Spectrum Guide
- New Look for the OPI Web Page

**Item 5 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT – Steve Meloy Presented**

- List of legislative concepts – Policy changes at the federal level. Document from Jim Stipcich, President of the Student Assistance Foundation
- Accessibility and affordability
- Refundable Higher Education Credit
- Increase of Pell grant money
- Enticement to encourage more students to study math and science
- Provide federal funds to increase the number of professional guidance counselors in middle schools and high schools
- Provide tuition or loan forgiveness to students who want to become teachers
- Discussed breach of OCHE server that BPE is fortunate to use
- Building plan on Helena Campus of Technology – Dave Gibson is heading the committee
- Dr. Kirk Miller addressed that 50 students from Havre and Glasgow will navigate the application process to register to some form of higher education – “The Leaky Pipeline”. The College Summit is the organization Havre and Glasgow are working with.

**Item 6 GOVERNOR’S OFFICE REPORT – Jan Lombardi Presented**

- Working with the Department of Transportation – Developing insectaries for Knapp weed induction- Prevent the spread of Knapp weed
- Launched a Governor and First Lady Math and Science Initiative
- Geological road signs on the secondary roads
- Hoping to announce a new regent in May
- Traveled to several campuses: Havre, University of Montana, MSU, Helena College of Technology, MSU-Billings, Billings College of Technology, and Chief Dull Knife College.
- Access/affordability/transferability/Distance Education/Dual Credit
- School Readiness Summit (Includes MSDB) June 14 – 16, 2006 in Helena
- Full-time Kindergarten
- Best and Brightest Scholarship – Governor’s Post Secondary Scholarship – Worked with Guaranteed Student Loan Program and High School and College Counselors
- Always thinking P-20 – Patty Myers is taking a leadership role
- June 28<sup>th</sup> Math and Science Initiative – Diane Fladmo would like to connect with the Governor’s office

**Item 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – Jack Jessop**

- Dr. Kirk Miller thanked Jack for his service and his excellent job in representing the Board of Public Education
- Montana Association of Student Council has elected their district and state officials
- Linda McCulloch was keynote speaker for the District Four Meeting
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Video of mock car crash – *Every 15 Minutes*
- Thanks to all the acronyms in Montana from Jack and the students in Montana
- Introduced Jenny Tiskus- Former editor of the *Salishian* newspaper, President of Speech, Debate

and Drama Team, State Champion in extemporaneous speaking, Student Government Representative, State Senate Campaign Volunteer plus a whole lot more.

- Senator Burns office called and said his offer of appointment to the Air Force Academy is in the mail. The Board extends its congratulations to Jack!

#### **Item 8 ASSESSMENT UPDATE – Madalyn Quinlan**

1. OPI hosted a successful Assessment Conference May 1-2, 2006
  2. Discussed the components of a balanced assessment piece with Dr. Ellen Fort – Global look at assessment – If we didn't have the NRT how do we acknowledge Social Studies and Language Arts and cover the accountability piece? Discussed adding a Social Studies component to the CRT – Role of an outside check on the system. Do we need to do the NRT every year? Discussed classroom assessments and the CRT aligned to the State's Standards.
  3. Proposed Rule Change of moving the NRT to the Fall and giving the flexibility to doing a sample – OPI recommends not to adopt or act on the rule and keep the Riverside Contract that we presently have in place until the end of the seventh year. (1 year remaining)- Which subgroups do we sample?
  4. Schedule of release of Iowa Test items (Norm Reference Test) for this spring, summer and fall – In July the Preliminary aggregated report results will be available – In November OPI will present the disaggregated subgroup report
- Ms. Diane Fladmo said assessment should be tied closely to classroom instruction.
  - Ms. Angela McLean wanted to know what the feasibility is of registering the students in the spring for the fall test. The response by Ms. Madalyn Quinlan was: at this point in time it would be extremely difficult, but it certainly can be done in the longer term with the New Student Information System it certainly could be possible.
  - Mr. John Fuller requested that we set the window for testing as far in advance as possible due to the advanced scheduling of the yearly schedule.
  - Dr. Kirk Miller says we need to look at the Mission Statements for the Montana Assessment System. Is the highway leading in the right direction?

#### **1:00 Power Point Presentation from Montana School for the Deaf and Blind High School Students- Class taught by Dian Moog**

#### **Item 9 REPORT ON MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL INITIATIVE – Linda Vrooman Peterson**

The Montana High School Initiative is not an isolated initiative. This effort to reform Montana high school education is a national, state, and local dialogue. Since 2002, several targeted and related activities have been sponsored by the OPI, professional education associations, school districts, and postsecondary education partners. The initial plan of the Montana High School Initiative is to work collaboratively with our education partners and public stakeholders; to establish a common direction for the initiative; and to meet the real issues and needs of Montana high schools as these relate to students, teachers, administrators, school staff, parents, communities, Tribes, and the general public.

The Montana High School Initiative's targeted areas include:

- Indian Education for All
- Increased student achievement
- Increased graduation rates
- Leadership development (Breaking Ranks II and Balance Leadership)
- Relationship to postsecondary education and workforce
- Promotion of educational experiences rich with opportunity to learn, use, and reinforce academic knowledge and skills in a variety of environments (e.g., career clusters)

Two memorandums were presented to the Board

1. Montana High School Initiative – Getting Ready for 2006-07 Conferences
2. Montana High School Initiative Work Session – March 22, 2006 – Follow Up Memorandum

Two grant opportunities sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education

1. Academic Competitiveness Grants
2. National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) Grants

Ms. Jan Lombardi stressed there is no "New Money". The Montana High School Initiative is an additional burden by the U.S. Department of Education. The Governor did send a letter to congress and the President expressing concerns about higher education, reauthorization act, and changes in the way Pell funding happens and interest rate adjustments that are not helpful.

**Item 10 CURRENT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS – Dr. Kirk Miller**

Dr. Kirk Miller asked the Board to review the current assignments and contemplate what changes they would like to see. This will be discussed in our Strategic Planning Session in July. Action will occur in the BPE's September meeting. Diane Fladmo suggested that the committees determine goals and work plans/ ideas for the accomplishments that we would like to see happen in the future.

**Item 11 SCIENCE STANDARDS REVIEW UPDATE – Linda Vrooman Peterson**

The draft of the Montana K-12 Science Standards is posted on the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Web site, has been distributed to the field using the OPI official e-mail, and has been disseminated directly to Montana educators – K-12 and postsecondary educators and professional education associates. The purpose of this broad dissemination strategy is to gather comments on the draft document. A summary of the comments received from the field is provided to the BPE.

On April 17, 2006, the OPI facilitated a discussion with working scientists. This science education focus group met at the OPI to talk about the essential concepts, knowledge, and skills of K-12 science education. A summary report is provided to the BPE.

A copy of the Power Point that was presented at the Assessment Conference was provided to the BPE. A proposed time line for the K-12 Science Standards:

- July Present to BPE draft Notice of Hearing and proposed time line
- August Notice of Hearing posted
- October Public Hearing
- November Final BPE Action Anticipated
- 2007 Implementation, Outreach, and Dissemination

Dr. Linda Peterson addressed that the Standards will address diversity specifically fulfilling the commitment to implementing 20-1-501, Indian Education for All. A memorandum was presented to the BPE concerning the Science Education Focus Group that discussed: How is science delivered and how education is delivered – Communication, hands on, real science, exploratory, problem solving, and inquiry. In 2008 students in 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades will taking a Montana Standard's test to determine their proficiencies.

**Item 12 ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE STATE REPORT ON ACCREDITATION REVIEW- Barbara Vail and Linda Vrooman Peterson**

All programs will be recommended for continued accreditation except for Music K-12. The major in music meets all endorsement standards. However, the minor does not. Before the May meeting of the BPE, Rocky Mountain College was asked to decide to retain or eliminate the teaching minor in music. Rocky Mountain College decided to maintain the teaching minor in music. As allowed by Section VIII (B) of the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards and Procedures Manual, the team recommends provisional approval of program standard 10.58.519, Music K-12. In accordance with Section IX of PEPPS, the unit will complete the following:

*The Dean of Education [or appropriate administrator] shall meet with the BPE in May 2006 and indicate specifically whether certification will be continued, and, if so, the progress on meeting the*

*standards. If the report to the Board indicates that the standards are to be met, the team chairperson and appropriate team members will visit Rocky Mountain College in December 2006 and verify that the standards are met. A report of this visit will be made by the team chairperson at the Board's first meeting after the December 2006 visit with a recommendation for either full approval or non-approval for future certification.*

Barbara Vail, the Director of the Education Program at Rocky Mountain College, indicated that the faculty voted unanimously March 2, 2006 to drop the minor in music. Rocky Mountain College will be requesting action at the July meeting.

**Item 13 UPDATE ON K-12 BUDGET REQUESTS FOR '09 BIENNIUM – Linda McCulloch**

Superintendent Linda McCulloch presented the 2007 School Funding Legislative Budget Proposals – Montana State General Fund.

Superintendent Linda McCulloch's number one priority is full-time kindergarten.

In 2003 the legislature decided to save four million dollars by requiring that school district pay the cost of their federal employees out of the Federal Program Fund. Title I had to pay the cost of the retirement for the teacher rather than out the County Retirement Fund. This is the only time that the legislature made a cut directly out of programs to kids.

Executive Secretary Steve Meloy clarified that the 2.76% inflationary adjustment to the base aid in the first year and the 3% in the second year is for both the school entitlement and ANB. He likes the way that it is a present law adjustment. It is the amount of money that is needed to carry on the way we are carrying on now. It is an inflationary adjustment to maintain current level.

Dr. Kirk Miller stressed that the Quality Educator, American Indian Achievement Gap, At Risk Students, and Indian Education for All were considered new components of the formula. They are part of the inflationary adjustment that must be contained with the formula.

Ms. Jan Lombardi commented that the Governor will be making changes to the committee structure for the Board of Education. She indicated that the Board of Public Education would be notified of the process that leads to the recommended committee structure by the July meeting. The first audience of notification will be the Executive Secretary of the Board of Public Education, Commissioner of Higher Education, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Board of Public Education will be discussing the Superintendent of Public Instruction's proposed budget recommendations for the 2009 Biennium during a conference call on June 7, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in specific budget items please call the BPE at (406)444-6576 for calling instructions if you would like to address the Board.

**Item 14 BPE & CSPAC BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS – Steve Meloy**

Executive Secretary Steve Meloy reported that he is very pleased with the budget. He has met with the BPE's analyst, Nancy Hall, to discuss the 2009 biennium budget. He has been building the budget through adjustments to the base. The \$195,000 that will begin the next biennium in July 2006 is \$18,000 more than it was during the last biennium due to increases in travel and salaries. There will be global adjustments to the base that all state agencies receive due to inflationary adjustments. He mentioned that there would be some amendments to the CSPAC budget due to the misallocation of funds due to the task profile. That will be rectified and adjusted for the 2007 fiscal year.

**Dr. Kirk Miller presented a plaque from the Board of Public Education to Bill Davis, Principal for the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, for his retirement and his years of excellence in service dedicated to education.**

**Item 15 MSDB REPORT – Steve Gettel and Bill Sykes**

Mr. Steve Gettel recognized the new principal of the Montana School of the Deaf and Blind during 2006-2007, Diane Moog. He passed around pictures of the MSDB group called Expressions of Silence, who went to Salt Lake City, UT, to perform at the National Music Educators Conference.

1. Student Enrollment/Evaluation
2. Human Resources
  - Personnel Actions
  - Update on core competencies project
  - Update on status of collective bargaining with MEA-MFT
3. School Improvement – Action Item\*
  - Report on accreditation status from NAAS, NAC, and CEASD on-site visit in March
  - Update on school improvement activities
  - Update on UNHS Task Force recommendations
  - \*Adoption of policies/policy amendments
4. Professional Development Activities
  - Update on in-service training
5. MSDB Foundation Activities
  - Update on activities
6. Conferences, Meetings and Contact
7. Finance and Facilities – Mr. Sykes
  - Update on budget and maintenance projects
  - Summary of '09 biennial EPP requests
8. School Calendar of Events
9. Student News
10. Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items

**MOTION: Patty Myers moved for adoption of the recommended list on the Policies/policy amendments listed on page 2 of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind Board of Public Education Agenda. There are nine listed for approval, six listed that are new and one for repeal. Seconded by Diane Fladmo. Motion passed unanimously.**

Item 25 was moved after Item 15 due to Steve Gettel being gone on Friday, May 12, 2006.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **Item 25 ESTABLISH EXECUTIVE STAFF SALARIES**

**\*\*The Board stood at ease until 8:30 a.m. Friday morning.**

**\*\*The Board reconvened at 8:30 a.m. on Friday May 12, 2006**

### **Item 2 REOPENED – EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT – Steve Meloy** **Constitutional Initiative 97**

As the result of the Governor asking both the Board of Regents and the Board of Public Education to consider taking a position on I-97, knowing that the Governor is against Constitutional Initiative 97 and the impacts that it would have on our economy and our educational system, Steve Meloy drafted a short statement of impact. There was much discussion on Thursday, May 11, 2006, as to what the BPE should come forward with, how strongly it should be written, and how actively the BPE should publicly be involved. A statement was distributed to the BPE titled: RESOLUTION OF THE MONTANA BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REGARDING THE IMPACT OF CONSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVE 97. Mr. Steve Meloy requested that he and the Board reflect on this document. This would give him the opportunity to get together with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Higher Education, and the

Governor's Ed Policy Advisor. Then they would publicly notice a conference call by noticing it on the BPE's and OPI's web sites. Then decide whether or not the Board should adopt this resolution or a resolution like this one. It was decided to proceed with the publicly noticed conference call.

The Board of Public Education will be discussing Constitutional Initiative 97/TABORS/SOS during a conference call on June 7, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in contributing to this discussion and possible action, please call the BPE at (406)444-6576 for calling instructions.

Superintendent Linda McCulloch distributed two documents: 1) E-mail to Regent Mike Foster dated May 8, 2006; 2) Letter to Senator Mike Cooney dated March 30, 2006 from Terry W. Johnson, Principal Fiscal Analyst from the Legislative Fiscal Division. It is her opinion, based on the review of these documents, that the Board of Public Education complies with 2-2-121.

#### **Item 16 SUMMIT PREPARATORY PRESENTATION – Al McMilin and Tom Kallay**

In December 2005, the Office of Public Instruction completed a follow-up on-site initial accreditation visit to the Summit Preparatory Academy, a college prep therapeutic boarding school located outside of Kalispell, Montana. Numerous deviations were noted to their accreditation status. At the March 10, 2006, Board of Public Education (BPE) meeting, Superintendent of Public Instruction Linda McCulloch, recommended to the BPE that the Summit Preparatory School be called to the May 2006 BPE meeting to inform the BPE on progress that has been made by the Summit Preparatory School to correct current accreditation deviations.

Mr. Al McMilin, Accreditation Educator Quality Specialist from OPI, reviewed the Summit Preparatory School Accreditation Time Line.

Mr. Tom Kallay, Education Director of the Summit Preparatory Academy, reviewed the letter written to Gary Warhank, Accreditation Specialist, on May 2, 2006. This letter addressed the documentation of corrective actions taken to date.

- 10.55.701 Summit Preparatory School has implemented a transition policy due to the unique mission of the school. The Transition Policy was presented to the BPE.
- 10.55.707.1 All teachers are appropriately assigned and certified in the subjects they presently teach. Mr. Tom Kallay commented that they are called clubs as an extra-curricular activity versus classes for credit. A list of teachers and folio numbers and the classes they are teaching was provided to the BPE.
- 20-1-301 through 20-1-305 MCA Note: Summit Preparatory School does not receive any State funding. In the course one academic block/one semester we provide 4x 70 minute periods per day x 5 days per week x 12 weeks = 16,800 minutes of instruction = 280 hours of instruction x 4 blocks in our academic year (SPS is a year-round school) = 1,120 aggregate hours. SPS exceeds the State minimum of 1,080 aggregate hours by 40 hours.
- 10-55-906(a) A unit of credit is equivalent to 8,100 minutes or 4,050 minutes of instruction per 0.5 credit; a full-unit course, 1.0 credit, at SPS is equivalent to 8,400 minutes or 4,200 minutes of instruction per 0.5 credit.
- 10.55.708.1 Stacy Cantrell, Folio Number 73187, holds a *Class N* Internship Class credential in Mathematics. UGF had not submitted the paperwork to OPI, but supported Ms. Cantrell's program of study for achieving an endorsement in Mathematics. UGF has since then submitted the proper paperwork and OPI has endorsed Ms. Cantrell. See the *Educator Credential Detail* document.
- 10.55.709.2 Sarah Conover (Milligan), Folio Number 72296, is endorsed *K-12 Library* and has been serving as the librarian at SPS since her hire in June, 2003.
- 10.55.710.3 Barbara Cunningham, Folio Number 66612, hired February 20, 2006 at .20 FTE is endorsed *K-12 School Counseling*.
- 19.55.904.2 The *Basic Education Program Offerings* are addressed and met in the academic schedule.
- 10.55.601.3 A *Five Year Comprehensive Education Plan* is being developed and will be

submitted to OPI by August 1, 2006.

Tom Kallay presented the following documents to support the Summit Preparatory Academy's compliance with Accreditation Standards:

- Transition Policy & School Profile
- Educator Credential Detail
- Schedule for the 2006/2007 Academic Year
- Weekly Schedule

Discussion ensued concerning: library media; Non-Traditional Courses (NTC) offered through Brigham Young University Online – distance learning; Mr. Eric Feaver vehemently disapproved of the BPE's and OPI's accreditation process concerning the Summit Preparatory School, Chairperson Storrs Bishop requested that we stay with the agenda that allows the BPE to correct the problems that presently exist and review the progress; Mr. Al McMilin believes that the accreditation and monitoring process is in place; Superintendent Linda McCulloch stated that the OPI does not have the ability to treat any school, public or private, differently; Mr. Steve Meloy noted an editing comment on the document provided by the Summit – In the first paragraph under the overview it states that Summit Preparatory School is accredited by the “**State of Montana Office of Public Instruction**” and it should state “**Board of Public Education**”; and Club activities versus elected classes for one quarter credit.

Dr. Kirk Miller stated that the BPE will review these accredited issues and if the BPE finds that the Summit Preparatory School is in compliance then the Board will have a recommendation at the September meeting to be accredited or disaccredited. Mr. Al McMilin commented that the Office of Public Instruction will hold them accountable to the accreditation process. Dr. Kirk Miller recommends that the Accreditation Committee review the schools that have been granted initial accreditation and develop a practice and a procedure that would be utilized, although it maybe isn't exactly the same as the regular process for other schools. The monitoring process through a practice that would be developed by the Accreditation Committee and the OPI, is different for any school that receives initial accreditation to be monitored in a purposeful way and the consequences may be at a more accelerated rate than schools who have been accredited for years.

#### **Item 17 NCLB UPDATE – Nancy Coopersmith**

This presentation included information about the following:

1. Montana amendment requests to the Montana Accountability Workbook submitted to the U.S. Department of Education May 31, 2006
  - Expansion of Montana's Valid and Reliable Statewide Rural All Schools Accountability Process (This amendment would entail USDE approval of flexibility
  - Extensions of both – (a) the exception that permits us to use the 1% limit on proficient scores, or no more than 2 scores for each district (if that results in exceeding the 1% limit at the state level) on our alternate assessment in determining AYP; and (b) our approval to use the additional 2% interim flexibility in making AYP determinations.
2. Information concerning the federal definition of “highly qualified teachers”
  - Set annual measurable objectives for the improvement in the rate of teachers who meet the definition of “highly qualified teachers.”
  - Deciding the eligibility qualifications of a teacher (particularly elementary teachers). Look at GPA, Student Teacher Performance, and a Praxis Score – Multiple measures
3. Electronic applications for funding of school district programs

Montana will observe all timelines for reporting AYP:

June and July, 2006      Conduct standards setting (cut scores) for grades 3-8 and 10

October 2006              Test scores for grades 3-8 and 10 scheduled to be received from contractor

November 2006	Set new starting points for AYP and issue AYP decisions, subject to appeal
December 2006	30 day review period for schools and districts to appeal, with all post-appeal AYP decisions made before start of second semester

**Item 18 CALORIES IN – CALORIES OUT CONFERENCE – HEALTHY SCHOOLS NETWORK – Steve Meloy and Bob Vogel**

Conference sponsored by NASBE on April 5, 2006, in Chicago. A major question asked and addressed by many speakers was: “Can we afford not to address the importance of nutrition and physical activity with our youth?” Mr. Steve Meloy shared several statistics that affect our children due to lack of physical education and nutritional choices. A common concern of all those present revolved around adequate resources for implementation of school wide initiatives and reform. Mr. Steve Meloy brought forward his concern that students need to understand the consequences of their decisions as they affect their life style and personal well being. In other words a culture needs to be created which causes a sentiment among students that it’s “hip to be healthy.”

Mr. Bob Vogel mentioned that former President Bill Clinton and his foundation are negotiating an agreement with the National Beverage Association to try to take regular soft drinks out of schools. It is on a voluntary basis at this point in time. He distributed a copy of the MTSBA newsletter that listed the following statistic: “An estimated 32.8 percent of male children and 38.5 percent of female children born in 2000 will contract Type 2 diabetes during their lifetime. A child who becomes diabetic at age 10 could have his or her life expectancy shortened by 19 years. During their lifetime, young people with diabetes are at great risk of developing heart disease, kidney disease, blindness, and stroke.” Montana schools has addressed this issue in the following ways: 1) 20% have implemented recess before lunch; 2) 36% of recently surveyed principals report they are working on policy changes that increase access to healthy food and beverage options - Child Nutrition Act; 3) 5 schools – Ennis, Ronan, Whitefish, Bozeman, and East Middle School in Great Falls – have been featured in the USDA Sharing of Success Guide for their work in Healthy Foods in Schools; 4) Lolo schools have received a national award from the Healthier US School Challenge Program.

Mr. Cal Gilbert is concerned that schools are eliminating recess from their day due to schools fighting for every instructional minute.

**Item 19 PEPPS REVIEW UP DATE – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

This presentation provided the Board of Public Education with an update of the review process of the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards and Procedures (PEPPS). The PEPPS Review Advisory Panel met April 24, 2006. Some agenda items were: Indian Education, technology, professional experience, 501 review, initial accreditation, sub-chapters 8 and 9, MCA 20-25-104 Supplementary conservation education in university system, and MCA 20-25-603 Teacher instruction – course required of education students. Included in the packet was the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards Time Line:

April 24	PEPPS Review Advisory Panel Meeting
May 11	Present Update to BPE
May 15	Presentation and Discussion with MACIE
May – August	Continue K-12 and Campus Outreach, Gather Public Comment
June	Prepare “Reader Friendly” Draft
July	Present “Reader Friendly” Draft to CSPAC and BPE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Recommendations from CSPAC</li> <li>• Recommend action by BPE to begin Notice of Hearing Process</li> </ul>
September	Notice of Hearing posted
October	Public Hearing
November	Final Action Anticipated
Winter	Outreach and Dissemination

## ACTION ITEMS

### **Item 20 UNIVERSITY OF GREAT FALLS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Dr. Harold Jones, Anne Avallone**

The Office of Public Instruction conducted a State Review of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Great Falls, October 23-26, 2005. The Exit Report was presented to the Board of Public Education at the January 2006 meeting.

At the March 2006 meeting of the BPE, Dr. Harold Jones requested the BPE grant provisional approval to the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Secondary Education. The BPE approved the request. In October 2006, the OPI will conduct a follow-up on-site visit to review the MAT program to ensure that the program is in compliance with the PEPPS. The presentation provided the BPE the opportunity once again to review the exit report recommendations and take final action on the recommendation.

**MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to accept the recommendations of the October 23-26, 2005 review of the University of Great Falls Professional Education Unit with the exception of: 1) 10.58.509 – Minor in English/Language Arts moved from non-approved to provisional 2) 2.10.58.604 – MAT – moved from non-approved to provisional. Seconded by Ms. Diane Fladmo. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Item 21 K-12 SCHOOLS – BASE AID PAYMENT SCHEDULE- Nancy Coopersmith**

As required by 20-9-344, MCA, the Board of Public Education must approve the distribution of K-12 BASE aid for public education. The schedule is the same as past years, approximately the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, with adjustment for weekends and holidays. It has been reviewed by the Board of Investments. The proposed payment schedule for the fiscal year 2006-2007 was distributed.

Superintendent Linda McCulloch reminded the BPE that the division from the Office of Public Instruction that handles this payment schedule does so each year with perfect or near perfect audits, never a late payment or a payment off for our schools in Montana.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation in regard to the distribution dates and payment schedule for base aid in 2006-2007. Seconded by Ms. Angela McLean. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Item 22 ALTERNATIVE STANDARD REQUEST-AI McMilin**

Mr. AI McMilin presented to the Board of Public Education on behalf of Gary Warhank for consideration of an Alternative Standard Five-Year Renewal Request recommended for disapproval by the state Superintendent Linda McCulloch. The report was included. This Five-Year renewal required an on-site visit to Great Falls. The team concludes that the library alternative standards and class size alternative standards proposed for renewal **does not meet or exceed** the standards they seek to supplant. The

team is therefore recommending to Superintendent Linda McCulloch and the Board of Public Education that these alternative standards renewal requests be disapproved.

Dr. Kirk Miller expressed his opinion that the access to library programming and services in this type of environment should far exceed other environments that do not have the same tools available to them. He requested that through the accreditation committee we continue to look to see if there is a better way to meet these alternative standards.

Discussion followed about the history of when library media alternative standards were adopted. Ms. Angela McLean stressed that although the libraries are staffed with library assistance, there is no substitute for certified librarians.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept and approve the Superintendent's recommendation to disapprove the five-year renewal alternative standard request for Administrative Rules 10.55.709 and 10.55.712 for the Great Falls School District. Seconded by Ms. Diane Fladmo. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 23 PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF ARM 10.56.603 AND 10.56.101 – Linda McCulloch**

The Board of Public Education has proposed amendments to its administrative rule for student assessment (ARM 10.56.101). The proposed rule would move the administration of the norm-referenced test (NRT) from the spring of the year to the fall of the year. It would provide the Board with the flexibility to switch to administering the NRT to a sample of students in grades 4,8 and 11 rather than all students in these grades.

The Office of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Public Education not adopt the proposed changes to ARM 10.56.101 on Student Assessment for the 2006-2007 school year. The OPI distributed the recommendation from the State Superintendent Linda McCulloch and the full citation for the Administrative Rule.

- Should have 7 years of trend data under the same conditions
- The logistics of registering students for administration of the Iowa tests in the Fall of 2006 would be very difficult for schools
- For 2006, there is not time to choose the subgroups to be represented, provide the time for Riverside Publishing Company to design a representative sample, and then register students in August
- Typically find that students perform poorly on new tests

**MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved to accept the OPI recommendation that the Board of Public Education not adopt the proposed changes to ARM 10.56.101 and ARM 10.56.603 on Student Assessment for the 2006-2007 school year. Seconded by Ms. Patty Myers. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 24 ELECTION OF NASBE OFFICERS- Diane Fladmo**

Ms. Diane Fladmo addressed that there are two positions open: 1) President – elect 2) Western Area Director. The candidates for President-elect are Dana Mann-Tavegia from Wyoming and Karabelle Pizzigati from Maryland. The only candidate for the Western Area Director is Mark Cluff from Utah. Background information was provided to the Board and discussion followed.

**MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved that the Montana Board of Public Education vote for Karabelle Pizzigati as President-elect and Mark Cluff for the Western Area Director. Seconded by Mr. Storrs Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.**

## PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – July 13 – 14, 2006

- Assessment Update
- NCLB Update
- Special Education Report
- MACIE Update
- MIEA Resolutions
- Current Committee Assignments
- Hearing for Science Standards (Action Item)
- Accreditation Review of the Rocky Mountain College State Report (Action Item)
- OPI – Present aggregated report from the Iowa Tests
- Accreditation Committee – Monitoring Process for school requesting initial accreditation
- Calories In – Calories Out
- PEPPS Review – Reader Friendly Document
- Alternative Standards Request

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**\*\*Closed Meeting at 12:45 p.m.**

#### **Item 25 Establish Executive Staff Salaries – Dr. Kirk Miller**

**\*\*Meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.**

**MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved that the BPE offer the Superintendent of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, Steve Gettel, a salary of \$77,118 for the 2006-2007 school term. Seconded by Mr. John Fuller. Motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved the Board of Public Education offer the Executive Secretary, Steve Meloy, a salary of \$81,138 for the 2006-2007 term. Seconded by Mr. John Fuller. Motion passed unanimously.**

Dr. Kirk Miller requests that Mr. Steve Meloy put this discussion in writing to document previous year dollar figures, percentages, and the current offer dollar figures.

**MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved that the Board of Public Education adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Diane Fladmo. Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.